

Innovation and Technology Commission

Environmental Report 2004



1. Introduction

This is the fifth Environmental Report published by the Innovation and Technology Commission, covering the Commission's environmental policy, targets and achievements in different environmental aspects in calendar year 2004.

The mission of the Innovation and Technology Commission is to spearhead Hong Kong's drive to become a world-class, knowledge-based economy. We strive to enhance Hong Kong's competitiveness and develop our city into an innovation and technology hub. Since 2000, we have been working on the following initiatives:

- ♦ Supporting innovation and technological infrastructures including the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute, the Hong Kong Jockey Club Institute of Chinese Medicine, Hong Kong Productivity Council, Cyberport, the Hong Kong Design Centre and a new InnoCentre for design clusters scheduled to operate within 2005;
- ♦ Providing a comprehensive funding programme to support innovation and technology development;
- ♦ Assisting our industries in developing a high value-added, high intellectual property and creativity content to move up the value-chain;
- ♦ Collaborating with the universities, technology support organisations and industry to strengthen the research capabilities in Hong Kong;
- ♦ Encouraging private sector investments in research and development; and
- ♦ Fostering an innovation and technology culture in the community, and promoting technological entrepreneurship.

2. Environmental Policy

Innovation and technological development cut across different fields, of which environmental management is one. We aim at providing support to Hong Kong industries to develop and implement advanced technologies for environmental management.

This Commission is also committed to providing a green office environment at the workplace and to ensuring that our operation is conducted in an environmentally conscious and responsible manner. We also educate and train our staff to ensure that they are aware of our departmental environmental policy, initiatives and their responsibilities such that they can participate actively in protecting the environment.

3. Support Measures to the Industry on Environmental Matters

Local industries and the society at large were more conscious about the environment than before. Industries recognised the need to adopt cleaner and more environmentally friendly technologies. The Commission continued to provide funding support to the development and adoption of clean environmental technologies and processes suitable for application in Hong Kong. Funding was available for eligible environmental technology-related projects under the Innovation and Technology Fund and the Applied Research Fund.

The Environmental Projects Vetting Committee under the Innovation and Technology Support Programme of Innovation and Technology Fund would vet those environmental-related project applications for funding support from the Innovation and Technology Fund. The Committee also monitored the implementation as well as effectiveness of the funded projects.

In 2004, the Innovation and Technology Fund provided funding support to 13 environment-related projects with a total commitment of about \$15.2 million. These projects were mainly related to the following:

- development of ecological supercritical fluid dyeing technology for textile industry;
- design and development of a novel bio-interactive electro-chemical wound dressing;
- development of integrated electrochemical dyeing and oxidative COD treatment process for sulfur;
- development of one-step strip tests for rapid detection of antibiotic residues in animal body fluid and food animal products (phase II);

- development of domestic air purification system based on plasma technology; and
- development of quick battery charger technology for zero-emission electric micro-car, with high frequency soft switching inverter and high frequency DC/DC power conditioning technology.

To develop practical and cost-effective technologies that could help addressing the air pollution problems, in particular the street level pollution and indoor air quality problems, we proactively solicited applications from projects relating to air quality improvement. Under this solicitation arrangement, funding support was provided to 4 projects at a total amount of \$9.7 million in 2004. These projects were for the development of:

- photocatalytic disinfection technology for air quality improvement;
- particulate removal technology for diesel engines;
- a system for removal of organic aerosols and odors in cooking exhaust; and
- satellite informatics system for surface particulate matter distribution.

4. Green Housekeeping Measures

In support of the Government's efforts to protect the environment, this Commission is committed to ensuring that our internal operations are conducted in a manner conforming to environmental protection principles and practices. In 2004, we adopted the following green practices:

Paper Consumption

- ★ We introduced the web-based Electronic Leave Application and Processing System (E-Leave). The system replaced the leave applications in paper form and enabled the leave applications of all staff to be submitted and processed on line. This initiative contributed towards our drive to promote a paperless office environment.

APPLICATION FOR LEAVE
假期申請表

NOTE: (1) Please read notes overleaf before completing this form. 填寫前請先閱讀背面附註。
(2) Application must be submitted to the Director of the Commission. 申請須向局長提交。
(3) *Delete as appropriate. 將不適用者刪去。

PART I
第一節

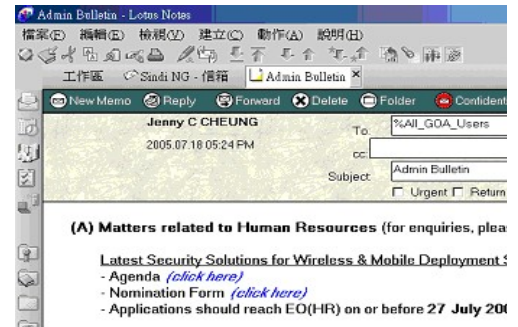
Name: _____ H.K. Identity Card No. _____ ()
姓名 (applicant 申請人) 香港身分證號碼

*Rank/Post: _____ Section: _____ Contact Tel.: _____
職級/職位 處室 傳呼電話

Leave Type 假期類別	Days applied for 申請日數	Period 由 _____ 至 _____	The 1st Saturday which is not a public holiday in the leave period is "NON-OFF". (To be completed by an applicant on alternate Saturday-off system if the leave period includes a Saturday.) 按「一週多一公假」假期系統填報。 * 非假/基本年假/休假期間
Vacation 假期			

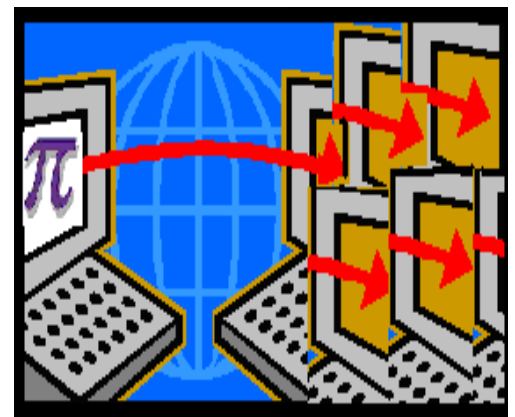
Signature: _____ Date: _____
(applicant 申請人) 日期

- ★ We continued to make full use of the electronic modes for internal and external communications, official correspondences and information circulation. In 2004, the number of electronic mail users increased by about 12% when compared with 2003.



- ★ The electronic Admin Bulletin board is widely used to disseminate information including telephone directory, training activities, newsletters, circulars, etc.

- ★ We stopped distributing hard copies of the agenda and papers to members of the Steering Committee on Innovation and Technology. We sent out the documents to members via email. As a result of this, about 2,600 sheets of A4-size paper were saved.



- ★ We continued to critically review the needs of printed publications and to reduce the number of printed copies to the absolute minimum.

- ★ We used recycled paper in place of white paper when printing work was required.

- ★ We sent festive greetings electronically.

- ★ We issued press releases and distributed application forms for funding support to members of the public through our website.

Energy consumption

- ★ In line with our commitment to adopt environmental measures in the fitting-out of our offices, we used T5 tubes in the newly refurbished office at Wu Chung House. As a result of that, we gained registration in the “Hong Kong Energy Efficiency Registration Scheme for Buildings”, confirming our compliance with the Code of Practice for Energy Efficiency of Lighting Installations.



- ★ We installed automatic sensor in each cellular office to ensure that lights would automatically be switched off when the room was not in use.



- ★ We critically reviewed and minimized the number of office equipment being used. As a result of that, the number of photocopiers was reduced by 50% while the number of fax machines was reduced by 7%.

- ★ We kept reminding colleagues to switch off lights and electrical appliances when not in use. To save energy, a duty staff would turn off all unnecessary lights and electrical appliances after normal office hours. All lights in store rooms and conference rooms were switched off when not in use.



Waste Management

- ★ We introduced the recycling of Compact Disc (CDs) in the office. Unwanted CDs were collected and sent to a charity organisation for recycling.
- ★ We provided green boxes in offices for collection of waste paper and newspaper for recycling.
- ★ We collected used printer toner cartridges for recycling.
- ★ We reused envelopes and loose minute file jackets where practicable.
- ★ We remained alert to use blank side of used paper for drafting, photocopying and faxing documents.



Air Quality

- ★ We participated in the Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Certification Scheme launched by the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau and the Environmental Protection Department. Our offices at Wu Chung House and Immigration Tower were certified complying with the “Good Class of the IAQ Objectives”.



- * We installed Nano Air Cleaner in the conference/meeting rooms to degrade pollutants and kill bacteria in the air.



5. The Way Forward

In 2005, the Commission shall continue the efforts in promoting and implementing green measures and housekeeping practices so as to make continual improvement. To ensure that the green efforts will be maintained and further improved, we commit to:

1. continue to provide funding support to environment-related projects;
2. continue to promote and encourage the adoption of effective green measures to provide a green working environment
3. keep encouraging and promoting staff participation
4. continue to conduct Indoor Air Quality Measurement in our offices with a view to pursuing a good air quality
5. encourage wider use of information technology to minimize paper and energy consumption
6. equip our staff with adequate computer facility and individual email account to facilitate the efficient transaction of departmental business by electronic means

6. Feedback

We welcome your valuable feedback on this Environmental Report. Please contact the Green Manager of the Commission by :

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This report is also available on the homepage of the Commission at <http://www.itc.gov.hk>.